(c) Various measures have been taken by Government of India to check the clandestine activities in relation to manufacture and marketing of mandrax tablets - which is a psychotropic substance. It has been included in the Schedule to Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as a psychotropic substance and for its manufacture, possession, selling, purchasing, transporting, importing inter-state, exporting inter-state or using as a drug, stringent punishment has been provided under NDPS Act. Instructi.ons/ alerts have also been issued to enforcement agencies, entrusted enforcement functions under NDPS Act, to check any such illegal activities in relation to clandestine production of narcotic durgs and psychotropic substances including mandrax tablets.. Efforts are being made to develop intelligence on identity of the kingpins and major drug syndicates involved in such illegal activities for taking appropriate strike^ction. Regular coordination meetings for effective enforcement action by various agencies are also chaired by the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau. The preventive formations are also sensitised to the new modus operandi involved.

बैंकों में धोखाधड़ी की घटनाओं को रोकने हेतु कदम उठाये जाना

*590. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावतः** क्या वित्त मंत्री 14 जुलाई, 1998 को राज्य सभा में अताराकित प्रश्न 2975 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों में धोखाधड़ी एवं गबन की घटनाओं को रोकने हेतु सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर. जनार्दनम) : सरकार और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के कहने पर राष्ट्रीकृत बैंकों ने धोखाधड़ियों को रोकने के लिए समय-समय पर कई उपाय किए हैं। इन उपायों में यह शामिल हैः- बैंकों में नियंत्रण तंत्र को मजबूत बनाने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा व्यापक मार्गनिर्देश रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा निरंतर आधार पर समीक्षा, बैंकों को विशिष्ट मामलों में अपेक्षित सुरक्षेपायों सहित उनकी पुनरावृत्ति रोकने की कार्य के बारे में परामर्श देना, परिचालन कार्मिकों का उचित प्रशिक्षण और प्रमुख धोखाधड़ियों के सूचित मामलों की जांच एवं संवीक्षा तथा धोखाधड़ी की सम्भावना वाले क्षेत्रों में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा अचानक निरीक्षण, जिसमें प्रणालियों एवं प्रक्रियाओं तथा आंतरिक व्यवस्था का निरीक्षण शामिल है।

सभी राष्ट्रीकृत बैंकों में सतर्कता तंत्र है, जिसके प्रमुख केन्द्रीय सतर्कता आयोग के परामर्श से सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किए गए मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी हैं। यह सतर्कता तंत्र निवारक उपाय करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है ताकि बैंक अधिकारियों द्वारा धोखाधड़ी और भ्रष्ट आचरण को रोका जा सके।

जब किसी बैंक द्वारा धोखाधड़ी का पता लगाया जाता है, तब उनकी प्रारंभिक जांच की जाती है। उसके निष्कर्षों के आधार पर, यह निर्णय लिया जाता है कि क्या विभागीय रूप से पूरी जांच की जाए अथवा मामले को स्थानीय पुलिस या केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो को सौंप दिया जाए। सामान्यतया, दस लाख रुपए से अधिक के मामले जांच के लिए केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यौरो से प्राप्त जांच रिपोर्टों के आधार पर बैंक, जहां कहीं आवश्यक होता है, नियमित विभागीय कार्रवाई करते हैं और धोकाधड़ी के लिए उत्तरदायी पाए गए अधिकारियों को दण्ड देते हैं। पुलिस तथा केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यौरो भी अभियोजन के लिए अदालतों में मामले दायर करते हैं।

Delay in Delhi-Pune flight service

*591. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Delhi-Pune and Pune-Delhi flights were delayed during the last three years; and

(b) the reasons for chronic delays?

' THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) During the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto May, 1998), out of 1736 flights of Indian Airlines on the sectors Delhi-Pune and Pune-Delhi, a total of 444 flights were delayed and 7 cancelled. Of these only 32 flights were delayed and 1 cancelled because of factors within the control of Indian Airline.';.

Jet Airways also started a daily flight on the sector Delhi-Pune-Delhi w.e.f. 22.11.97. Out of 476 flights of Jet Airways, 88 flights were delayed. Only 16 flights were delayed because of factors within the control of Jet Airways.

The remaining flights were delayed because of adverse weather, airport restrictions, consequential and miscellaneous reasons.

Action plan to fight economic sanctions

*592. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all Union Ministries have recently been asked to prepare their action plans to fight the negative impact of economic sanctions;

(b) if so, the details of action-plans prepared; and

(c) the modus operandi to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Union Ministries monitor developments in the economy and or external developments relevant to the subjects under their charge (as per Allocation of Business Rules). Appropriate adjustments are made to the policies and programmes to meet new developments as and when thought necessary and useful.

The sanctions/suspensions/delay in economic aid will have little effect on the balance of payments in 1998-99, as disbursements of previously sanctioned loans are not affectedi Similarly, approval of new aid related to basic needs have generally not been affected. Thus, at this point, the impact is not likely to be significant during 1998-99, though one must keep in mind that the precise nature of the sanctions/suspensions is still not dear.

The general approach of the Government in countering the effect of sanctions is to try to get a better understanding of our position on the part of other countries and also to encourage private capital flows to substitute for whatever reduction takes place in official flows. To this end the Government is pursuing its stated policies of encouraging inflows of foreign direct investment or NRI flows and ensuring that our economic situation is strong and such as to create confidence in financial markets. It is also expediting various programms and changes which will improve the general climate for investment, growth and equity.

Bonds by SBI

*593. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Bank of India wants to raise US $ two billion through bonds;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal;

(c) what are the bonds in foreign currency already with State Bank of India;

(d) whether Government have assessed this proposal on a long term basis; and

(e) if so, whether Government approves this style of raising bonds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (e) The Government has decided to mobilise foreign currency resources from Non-Resident Indians through Resurgent India Bonds to be launched by the State Bank of India for our country's development, especially for building up infrastructure. This was announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on June 1, 1998 (vide para 45). In pursuance of the above decision of the Government, SBI has been permitted to float the Resurgent India bonds. SBI expects to raise about US $ 2 billion. SBI had issued NRI Bonds Series I and India Development Bonds in 1988 & 1991, respectively which matured in 1996 & 1997, respectively. SBI had also issued NRI Bonds Series II in 1990 which is maturing in 1998.

The SBI is in the process of finalising the offer document ancl some details of